

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION EUR-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 INR-09 CIAE-00

NSAE-00 PRS-01 RSR-01 RSC-01 /047 W

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R 231245 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5461

S E C R E T BUCHAREST 1912

LIMDIS

E. O. 11652: XGDS-4, IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE

TAGS: PINT RO

SUBJECT: RUMORED ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST CEAUSESCU

1. ALTHOUGH THERE IS LITTLE TO GO ON AND RUMORS ARE VERY VAGUE, WE HAVE PICKED UP SOME TALK OF POSSIBLE ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT AGAINST CEAUSESCU MONTH OR SO AGO. UGANDAN STUDENT WHO HAS ROMANIAN WIFE AND MANY ROMANIAN CONTACTS HEARD THAT SOME KIND OF ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT WAS MADE SHORTLY BEFORE CEAUSESCU'S TRIP TO IASI (MAY 4), SUPPOSEDLY DURING UNPUBLICIZED CEAUSESCU TRIP TO HIS HOME TOWN OF SCORNICESTI. ATTEMPT SUPPOSEDLY FAILED DUE TO BUNGLING BY ITS PERPETRATORS RATHER THAN SKILLED WORK BY SECURITATE.

2. BRITISH EMB OFF HEARD EVEN MORE VAGUE STATEMENT THAT MIGHT BE SEEN AS CONFIRMATION AND WHICH IS OF INTEREST SINCE IT CAME FROM MORE RELIABLE OR BETTER- INFORMED SOURCE. BRITISH OFFICER SAYS HE MENTIONED TO DEPUTY CHIEF EDITOR OF ROMANIA LIBERA, SECOND LARGEST NEWSPAPER, STORY ABOUT SCHACHTER SUICIDE AS POSSIBLE MOTIVATION FOR CHANGES OF TOP SECURITY PERSONNEL. EDITOR REPLIED THAT MUCH MORE IMPORTANT AND SIGNIFICANT THINGS HAD OCCURRED THAN SCHACHTER CASE BUT HE REFUSED TO EXPLAIN FURTHER.

3. COMMENT: WE REALIZE ABOVE IS VERY THIN GRUEL BUT IT IS BEING REPORTED BECAUSE OF SIGNIFICANCE IT COULD HAVE AS
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POSSIBLE LEAD TO RECENT HIGH LEVEL SECURITY CHANGES.
MARTENS

SECRET
NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** LIMDIS
*** Current Classification *** SECRET

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